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recommended to the general reader for its clear, untechnical, and very readable statement of the principles of international law involved in the American trade in munitions and foodstuffs on the one hand, and in the German effort to put down that trade by submarines on the other. Dr. Rogers's treatment of the diplomatic correspondence between the two countries on these subjects is to be commended. Leaving out side issues and unessentials, he brings only the main points of the diplomatic notes before our eyes, and he does it adequately and interestingly, as well as calmly and dispassionately.

S. L. WARE.

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE. Division of Inter-course and Education. "The Imperial Japanese Mission, 1917." Washington, D. C. Pp. 125. 1918.

This handsomely bound pamphlet is a record of the reception accorded throughout the United States to the Special Mission headed by Viscount Ishii and sent by Japan to this country last year. The record is a very full one, the speeches of welcome and the responses are given verbatim, and all the attendant circumstances and incidents of the triumphant progress of the Mission are set forth. The whole forms a fitting memorial of a great display of international friendship between the two nations.

S. L. WARE.

PLATONISM. By Paul Elmer More, author of the Shelburne Essays, The Louis Clark Vanuxem Lectures, Princeton University, for 1917-1918. Princeton University Press. Pp. ix+307. 1918.

"Only through the centralizing force of religious faith or through its equivalent in philosophy can the intellectual life regain its meaning and authority for earnest men. Yet, for the present, at least, the dogmas of religion have lost their hold, while the current philosophy of the schools has become in large measure a quibbling of specialists on technical points of minor importance, or, where serious, too commonly has surrendered to that flattery of the instinctive elements of human nature which is the very negation of mental and moral discipline."

These words from the preface of Mr. More's book give the spirit of his undertaking. He might have added, in all fairness,

that men like Balfour and Pringle Pattison and not a few others do not come under his double indictment of philosophy. Then, too, the author is incautious in suggesting that "the dogmas of religion have lost their hold." Rather, one would be inclined to say, that patient genius, the Average Man, is interested in seeing the "dogmas of religion" expressed in a way suitable for our age and kept in close touch with the practical and devotional religious life.

Many specialists in philosophy will gaze askance, if not in dismay, on many of Mr. More's attempts to reinterpret Plato; but the persevering general reader may well find in this stimulating book of literary excellence a stimulus to the study of Plato's own works.

T. P. B.

A HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE THE CIVIL WAR. Vol. I.
By Ellis Paxson Oberholtzer. New York: The Macmillan Company.
Price \$3.50. 1917.

This work will be completed in five volumes, and it is difficult to consider it piecemeal. The volume at hand may be considered as an introduction for what is to follow, and, as such, it is admirable. In it the difficulties, political, social, and economic, which lay in the way of a complete understanding between the victorious North and the discouraged and prostrate South are shown with clearness and precision. The mass of new documentary evidence which is constantly being unearthed is bringing about a better comprehension of that greatly misunderstood man, Andrew Johnson.

We are beginning to understand better the trials which confronted him, and the courage with which he met these trials; and we are also beginning to appreciate more and more his splendid qualities, so long been entirely overshadowed by the manifest faults of temper and temperament which were the direct causes of the failure of his administration. All this Mr. Oberholtzer tells us with a fluent and powerful pen. It is a disagreeable story at best, but Mr. Oberholtzer gives us the picture with fairness and accuracy.

On the other hand, the years 1865 to 1868 are of the greatest economic importance. In them we see the laying of the Atlantic